

## CLAIMS:

1. Method for generating a serial bitstream comprising information for synchronizing the serial bitstream internally and/or to another serial bitstream and/or for determining the position in the serial bitstream wherein a fixed code pattern is embedded in the serial bitstream, characterized in that the code pattern is periodically repeated in the serial bitstream and that any sequence of a fixed number of successive bits of the code pattern forms a unique code word allowing for synchronization and/or position determination.
2. Method according to claim 1, characterized in that the code pattern and the number of successive bits forming a code word are selected such that at least a one-bit error in any code word is correctable.
3. Method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the code pattern and the number of successive bits forming a code word are selected such that at least one marker at a fixed position in the bitstream is created allowing for a detection of a reference position in the bitstream even if a one-bit error occurs in the marker.
4. Method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the code words are generated and/or detected by a linear feedback shift register.
5. Method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the code pattern is embedded in a channel bitstream of user data stored on a record carrier or transmitted over a transmission line.
6. Method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the serial bitstream is separated into superframes consisting of a fixed number of frames and that the code pattern is completely embedded in one superframe.
7. Method as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that one bit of the code pattern is embedded in each frame of said superframe.

8. Device for generating a serial bitstream comprising information for synchronizing the serial bitstream internally and/or to another serial bitstream and/or for determining the position in the serial bitstream comprising code generating means for  
5 generating a fixed code pattern and coding means for embedding said fixed code pattern in the serial bitstream, characterized in that the coding means are provided for embedding the code pattern in the serial bitstream such that the code pattern is periodically repeated and that the code generating means are provided for generating the code pattern such that any  
10 sequence of a fixed number of successive bits of the code pattern forms a unique code word allowing for synchronization and/or position determination.
9. Binary signal comprising a serial bitstream and information for synchronizing the serial bitstream internally and/or to another serial bitstream and/or for determining the position in the serial bitstream wherein said information includes a fixed code pattern  
15 embedded in the serial bitstream, characterized in that the code pattern is periodically repeated in the serial bitstream and that any sequence of a fixed number of successive bits of the code pattern forms a unique code word allowing for synchronization and/or position determination.
- 20 10. Record carrier carrying a binary signal according to claim 9.
11. Record carrier according to claim 10, wherein the record carrier is an optical record carrier, in particular a CD or a DVD.
- 25 12. Method for reading a binary signal according to claim 9 using the code pattern embedded in the serial bitstream to synchronize the serial bitstream internally and/or to another serial bitstream containing the identical code pattern and/or to determine the position in the serial bitstream.
- 30 13. Method according to claim 12, characterized in that the position in the serial bitstream is determined by converting the code word into a position information using a look-up table or a conversion algorithm.

14. Device for reading a binary signal according to claim 9 comprising means for using the code pattern to synchronize the serial bitstream internally and/or to another serial bitstream containing the identical code pattern and/or to determine the position in the serial bitstream.